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## BOARD OF SUPERVISORS POST OFFICE BOX 100, RUSTBURG, VIRGINIA 24588 www.campbellcountyva.gov

March 23, 2011

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR R. DAVID LAURRELL

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Mr. and Mrs.
Rustburg, VA 24588

Re: Region 2000 Services Authority – Livestock Road Facility

Dear Mr. and Mrs.



Thank you for your letter of March 18<sup>th</sup> inquiring about the Region 2000 Services Authority facility on Livestock Road in Campbell County. I spoke with Supervisor Pendleton and he asked if I would respond to your letter.

As you probably know Campbell County operated a solid waste management facility at the Livestock Road site for nearly 30 years. The entire 159 acre site was permitted in 1979. Since that time numerous design efforts have generated improvements to comply with more stringent state and federal environmental regulations. Phase II was permanently closed in 1995 when operation of Phase III, a lined Subtitle D facility was opened. The operation of Phase III was subsequently transferred to the Region 2000 Services Authority by agreement with a number of other localities during 2007. This agreement includes the operation of Phase IV following the filling of Phase III. There are five member jurisdictions who participate in the Authority. Each of the jurisdictions has a member representative on the Authority board.

Your letter requests that the landfill not be reopened. I wanted to let you know that the current operating portion of the Livestock Road facility was never permanently closed and was never considered for closure. The concept that was adopted four years ago was to combine landfill operations and facilities among a number of jurisdictions to better manage our solid waste stream and reduce operating costs, thereby saving taxpayer dollars. This was accomplished by using one landfill facility at a time. To date both the operations and cost savings have been very successful.

The current facility taking the bulk of waste material is located in the City of Lynchburg and is located off of Concord Turnpike. Since the inception of the Authority the majority of solid waste from the participating localities has been going to that site. Beginning in 2012 the majority of solid waste from the participating localities will be going to the Livestock Road site. For a period of two to four years the Concord Turnpike facility will maintain intermittent operations until it is at capacity and closed permanently.

The current estimates are that Phase III of the Livestock Road facility will be in operation for approximately four to five years and then work will begin on a lateral expansion eastward into Phase IV, which is located east of the current fill area. Phase IV is expected to be open for approximately seven years and the lateral expansion is expected to add an additional two to three years. Construction and landfill activity near the Poplar Ridge subdivision will begin this summer.

The planning for the Region 2000 Services Authority began in 2004 and has been very well publicized. Several public hearings occurred between 2004 and 2008, including when the Board of Supervisors entered into the agreement creating the Authority and its concept of operations. Additionally, updates were provided through the print and broadcast media and the Campbell County Chronicle, which is mailed to every household in the County. I encourage you to visit the Authority website at <a href="https://www.region2000.org/services-authority.html">www.region2000.org/services-authority.html</a>. There is a lot of good information on the site and it will give you a broad understanding in terms of what has occurred to date on the project. You can view the original studies and recommendations at the Regional Solid Waste Initiative Studies link on that website.

When the Barringer property was submitted for rezoning in 2004 the County had concerns over the proposed location adjacent to the landfill facility for homeowners based on the then current and proposed future operations. One of the primary concerns was the close proximity of the subdivision to a landfill operation that planned to operate for many years into the future. Noise and dust were significant concerns. The County conducted a Project Evaluation Committee meeting in November of 2004 on the proposed Poplar Ridge subdivision. The proposal to transfer operations of the facility to a regional entity was well underway at that time. As a result of the County's concerns the property owners placed several restrictions on the rezoning that included increased setbacks and a prohibition of any groundwater removal. Based on those restrictions and after the Project Evaluation Committee briefing the Board of Supervisors approved the rezoning in January of 2005.

In preparation for the return of increased vehicular activity one of the requirements was to realign and rebuild Livestock Road. The new Livestock Road was constructed on behalf of the Regional Authority starting in 2007 and was completed in 2009. The roadway was designed and constructed specifically for better traffic flow and to accommodate the existing livestock market. The Region 2000 Services Authority is currently being required to perform additional traffic impact analysis and has been working with their consultant and the Virginia Department of Transportation. This study is expected to be completed later this year. Additionally, the Region 2000 Services Authority has plans to develop and improve a sound dampening barrier along the roadway entering the facility closest to the Poplar Ridge subdivision.

All solid waste management facilities in the Commonwealth of Virginia are highly regulated under statutory authority of the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (VDEQ). Whenever a permit is issued or modified VDEQ requires numerous engineering studies and analysis. This process includes a 30-day public comment period and a public hearing conducted by VDEQ. Environmental impact is a significant part of the review process and includes coordination with the Army Corps of Engineers. I can assure you that both Campbell County and the Region 2000 Services Authority have always complied with the Virginia Solid Waste Management Regulations

required when permitting or modifying permits. This goes back to the original permitting process in 1979.

From time to time issues arise surrounding the landfill and transfer sites that require Board of Supervisors action. The operations of the facility will be overseen by the Region 2000 Services Authority board. There is nothing scheduled on the April 5<sup>th</sup> Board meeting regarding the Livestock Road facility; however, the Planning Commission has a public hearing scheduled for March 28<sup>th</sup> at 7 PM and the Board of Supervisors tentatively has a public hearing scheduled for June 7<sup>th</sup> at 7 PM to discuss issues related to the transfer of property to the Services Authority, rezoning of new adjoining tracts that were acquired by the County since 2007, and a Special Use Permit for the separation of the existing VDEQ operating permit. The landfill property is currently zoned Industrial-Heavy and can accommodate a number of uses. I encourage you to attend these public hearings if you would like to provide any feedback regarding the issues being taken up. I would also encourage you to participate in any future public meetings that take place regarding the property so you can keep abreast of operations at the landfill.

I would like you to know that we understand and can appreciate your situation. The County has always been very concerned about future property owners purchasing property adjacent to a permitted solid waste management facility. The County went to great lengths to publicize the existence of the current landfill and its proposed future use and to conduct a number of public hearings on the matter. Additionally, more stringent regulations in our Landfill Overlay District were placed on properties surrounding the landfill to help protect the adjoining property owners and to alert them to the existence of a landfill adjacent to their property. We have attempted through a number of avenues to make sure it was general knowledge from the beginning of this process on the use of the facility. At this point the Board of Supervisors has little operational oversight of the current facility by virtue of the agreement entered into in 2007 for the long term use of the property.

If there is anything we can do to help make the adjacent environment less distracting, we will be more than happy to give that consideration and support reasonable requests. Unfortunately, the decision to continue to use the property as a landfill operation under the Region 2000 Services Authority was a decision made in 2007.

If you have any questions or need any additional information please feel free to contact Clarke Gibson, Solid Waste Director, at the Region 2000 Services Authority (434-455-6079), Clif Tweedy, Campbell County Deputy County Administrator (434-592-9525), or myself.

With kind regards, I am

Respectfully,

R. David Laurrell County Administrator C: Campbell County Board of Supervisors
Clif Tweedy, Deputy County Administrator
Gary Christie, Executive Director, Region 2000 Local Government Council
Clarke Gibson, Region 2000 Services Authority